Mobile Feeding Model

Transporting meals to children instead of requiring children to travel to a meal service site is known as the 'mobile feeding' model. A site is defined as a physical location at which a sponsor provides food services for children and where children consume meals in a supervised setting.

What's that look like? Click here to see! http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/19/fred-buses-feed-hungry_n_3780267.html

Traditionally, sites are located at schools, playgrounds, parks, churches, community buildings, or other similar places. In rural areas, children may live in isolated locations where access to meal service sites operated by schools, parks and recreation departments, and private nonprofit organizations is often limited. In urban areas, violence and traffic safety concerns are examples of issues that may limit viable options for site locations. In these cases, mobile feeding provides flexibility so sponsors can reach children who can't make it out to traditional sites.

How it Works

A sponsor delivers meals to an area, using a route with stops at approved sites in the community. Each site is approved as an area-eligible open site. The meal service takes place on approved days and the sponsor serves reimbursable meals during approved service times. The meal service is supervised and all meals are consumed at the site, on the bus or near the drop-off location.

For more information on the operating requirements, check out the USDA Policy Memorandum on the Mobile Feeding Model at http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/SP02 SFSP02-2014os.pdf.

Seeing it in Action

Check out these real life success stories of Summer Meals operations using the mobile model!

http://www.smcisd.net/news.cfm?story=1583

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Oy9f6j_5IM

http://mobile-cuisine.com/off-the-wire/food-trucks-provide-free-summer-meals-for-hungry-kids/



http://yourhub.denverpost.com/mobile-meals-feed-englewood-kids-over-the-summer/

http://philnc.org/2013/07/01/teaming-up-to-feed-kids-in-summer/

http://www.mdhungersolutions.org/fedfoodprogs/summer_best_practices.shtm

http://haysfoodbank.org/tag/smcisd-mobile-meals/

Partner Resources

Share Our Strength's Mobile Meals Playbook

The Playbook offers best practices for determining if mobile is right for you, making plans for a new mobile program, and/or adopting better practices to improve your existing programs. This tool is designed for sponsors already familiar with or operating the SFSP or SSO

http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/summer-meals/mobile-meals-playbook

Review these ideas and adopt the strategies that seem reasonable to you and compatible with your program. Sponsors and the general public should contact the appropriate State Agency for additional guidance. State agencies should contact their FNS Regional Office for additional guidance.

List of FNS Regional Offices: http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns-regional-offices
List of State Agencies: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm

